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ON TAP

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WATER CONSERVATION

As the summer months approach and we experience warmer weather that is customary to the Canyon areas, TCWD's On Tap Newsletter will be highlighting a different way that homeowners can conserve water each month. For the month of June, the focus is on some facts concerning Indoor Water Use.

For additional information to supplement TCWD's recommendations, there are a number of water-wise and conservation-based educational videos on the Metropolitan Water District website located at www.bewaterwise.com/movies/ad_campaigns/ads.html.

TCWD would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our customers for their concerted and continued efforts to conserve this essential natural resource. We recognize our customers have truly taken to heart the call to conserve water and we appreciate the continued efforts.

INDOOR WATER USE

Water is a precious natural resource that is used in a wide variety of applications to meet our daily needs. Not only is water essential for sustaining human life, but it is important to many household appliances to improve our quality of life. Consider the following consumption estimates:

- A single flush of a toilet in a home that was built in the late 1980s or early 1990s, and still has the original toilets: **3.5 gallons per flush**

- Brushing your teeth for 2 minutes without turning off the water: **3 gallons**
- A 10 minute shower (with no flow restrictor in the shower head): **25 gallons**
- A single load of laundry in a 5 year old washing machine: **42 gallons**
- A leak in your home plumbing can account for one-sixth of all indoor water use. At the estimated value of 75 gallons per person per day, this amount can be up to **12 gallons**

TCWD estimates 75 gallons as the average indoor water use per person per day. Of course, this number varies from person-to-person, and day-to-day. However, if every person could reduce their water use by 10%, the impact on water conservation would be very helpful.

WATER SUPPLY SHUTDOWN

Trabuco Canyon Water District has received formal notice that the main source of water for South Orange County will be interrupted for approximately eight days in June.

The Metropolitan Water District (MET) has informed all retail water agencies (both water districts and cities) in Orange County that the Allen-McColloch Pipeline (AMP) is scheduled to be shutdown for maintenance and repairs from June 6th through June 15th.

This shutdown will have an impact on some of the retail water agencies in southern Orange County, primarily in areas located south of the El Toro Y, where the 405 and 5 Freeways meet. This is due to the fact that all of these agencies are water importers and rely heavily on MET to supply water to their respective agencies on a continuous basis. Each water retailer has its own contingency plan for a prolonged interruption and each agency will put their respective plans into place during the time of this outage.

Reservoir capacities for storage of water vary from water agency to water agency. This water supply interruption will impact water retailers in various ways. Needless to say, the messaging for water conservation from all water retailers is necessary before and during the event; TCWD will be no exception.

So what are TCWD's plans to deal with this water supply interruption? While the scheduled shutdown of the Diemer Filtration Plant earlier this year had a significant impact on South County Agencies, TCWD was able to take water from Irvine Lake because we own and operate a water treatment plant. The pending AMP shutdown should not affect TCWD. During normal operations, TCWD takes untreated water from the Lake Matthews Water Supply Line before it arrives at the Diemer Filtration Plant by way of the Santiago Lateral Pipeline and the Baker Pipeline. TCWD then treats this water at its own water treatment plant in Lake Forest and delivers it to TCWD customers.

However, TCWD still requests all customers to conserve. If the water filtration plant can produce more water than is demanded for our service area, then TCWD will be able to make this water available to neighboring agencies to assist with their water supply shortages during the shutdown.

LOCAL TOP FIVE CALIFORNIA-FRIENDLY PLANTS FOLLOW-UP

Last month's *On Tap* highlighted the California-friendly plant challenge that District staff took to

local nurseries for the 2010 Open House. Samples of these water-wise plants have recently been planted in pots and are on display in the front courtyard at the TCWD Administration Office for viewing purposes.

If you're currently thinking about a landscape renovation project, please feel free to stop by and speak to District staff about the local top five California-friendly plant display.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

The Regular Board Meeting is held on the third Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the District's office located at 32003 Dove Canyon Drive, Trabuco Canyon. The public is encouraged to attend.

BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

The Board Meeting was held on May 19, 2010. The following items are highlights from the Meeting:

- Received an update from staff relating to ongoing water monitoring and water conservation efforts.
- Received an update from staff relating to the Rose Canyon and Lang Wells Groundwater Treatment Facilities Upgrade Project.
- Received an update from staff relating to the Baker Regional Water Treatment Facility Project.

ON TAP is published and distributed by TCWD.
We welcome your comments, suggestions and questions. Please call or write Michael Perea at
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